MEDIA RELEASE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

For Immediate Release Friday, October 23, 2009

Contact: Teri Pope (770) 718-3924 office (404)274-6436 cell

NEXT WEEK US 78 WESTBOUND LANE CLOSES FOR 2 WEEKS FOR UTILITY WORK

SNELLVILLE, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces utility relocation work on US 78/State Route 10 in Snellville beginning Monday and lasting for two weeks, weather permitting.

"Currently we have 3 westbound lanes open to traffic on US 78. The outside lane of 78 from Knollwood Drive to State Route 124 will be closed around the clock for two weeks beginning Monday so a utility line can be relocated. As crews widened this portion of 78, this unknown force main was found in the footprint of the roadway. The wisest decision is to move the line while we are working in the area. By completely closing this lane to traffic for two weeks, the utility line can be moved and we can keep construction on schedule," explained Georgia DOT District Construction Engineer Randall Davis.

This \$31 million widening project is on schedule for its November 31, 2009 completion date, weather permitting.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. Additional transportation revenues are imperative to grow and sustain Georgia's economic vitality and quality of life through the 21st Century. Georgia is the 3rd fastest-growing state in the nation, yet 49th in per capita spending on transportation. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).